

CHAPTER NO. 433

SENATE BILL NO. 58

By Harper

Substituted for: House Bill No. 974

By Kernell, Cooper, Brooks

AN ACT To amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 29 and Title 49, Chapter 7, relative to the Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-29-222(a), is amended by deleting item (54) in its entirety.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-29-224(a), is amended by adding a new item thereto, as follows:

() Tennessee Higher Education Commission, created by Section 49-7-201;

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-7-202(c), is amended by deleting subdivision (8) in its entirety.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-7-702, is amended by deleting such section in its entirety.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-7-401(b), is amended by deleting subdivision (2) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(2) Funding for the Meharry family practice residency program shall not exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per year per resident in training.

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-7-402(b), is amended by deleting subdivision (2) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(2) Funding for the Meharry preventive medicine residency program shall not exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per year per resident in training.

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-7-404(b), is amended by deleting subdivision (2) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(2) Funding for the Meharry general dentistry residency program shall not exceed forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) per year per resident in training.

SECTION 8. The general assembly hereby directs the Tennessee Higher Education Commission to continue to develop and enhance the Tennessee pre-law and pre-health science fellowship program. The Tennessee Higher Education Commission shall continue to report to

the general assembly on the progress of such program, including the number of participants, the professional schools that they attend, and the graduation rates of such students.

SECTION 9. There is hereby created a study group to review the structure and responsibilities of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. The review should include but not be limited to: the composition and appointment process of commission members; the effectiveness of the commission in guiding the higher education master plan of the state; the authority and responsibility of the commission pertaining to matters of program offerings, duplication of programs and approval of new programs; an evaluation of how the commission functions in comparison to higher education coordinating bodies in other states; and the role the commission should play in establishing and overseeing measures of performance of public higher education. The study group shall be composed of two (2) individuals designated by the governor, one (1) individual designated by the Speaker of the Senate and one (1) individual designated by the Speaker of the House as they may determine. It is the intent that the results of the review provided for in this section shall be completed by January 1, 2002 and shall become the basis for legislation aimed at strengthening the commission's role in the structure of public higher education governance in Tennessee. The Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury, the Office of Legislative Budget Analysis and the division of budget in the Department of Finance and Administration shall provide staff resources to the study group as may be requested.


SECTION 10. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: June 29, 2001


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 30th day of June 2001


DON SUNDQUIST, GOVERNOR